

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAR ES 01082 151337Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----151418Z 039389 /45

O 151300Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4351
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 1082

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CG, TZ
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT NYERERE ON CURRENT SITUATION IN ZAIRE

1. SUMMARY. PRESIDENT NYERERE CONVEYS TO US NETO'S EXPLANATION THAT CURRENT FIGHTING IN ZAIRE IS ANGOLA'S RETALIATION FOR CONTINUED "TROUBLE-MAKING" BY MOBUTU. NYERERE URGES THAT US NOT RESPOND FAVORABLY TO ANY REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM MOBUTU. END SUMMARY.

2. UPON HIS ARRIVAL AT DAR ES SALAAM AIRPORT FROM BEIRA FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS' MEETING AT NOON MARCH 15, PRESIDENT NYERERE HAD AN AIDE TELEPHONE TO SAY PRESIDENT WISHED TO SEE ME AT HIS MSASANI HOUSE AS SOON AS HE REACHED THERE ON MATTER OF SOME URGENCY.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 DAR ES 01082 151337Z

3. NEW FOREIGN MINISTER MKAPA AND EUROPE AND AMERICAS DIVISION DIRECTOR MUGANDA WERE WITH PRESIDENT DURING CONVERSATION AT MASASANI. NYERERE BEGAN BY SAYING HE HAD HAD TALK WITH NETO AT BEIRA ABOUT ZAIRIAN INVASION. NETO'S EXPLANATION WAS THAT AFTER BEHAVING FAIRLY DECENTLY FOR A TIME, MOBUTU HAD RECENTLY BEEN CAUSING ANGOLA A LOT OF TROUBLE, E.G., SUPPORTING RAIDS BY

UNITA FORCES, FOOLING AROUND IN CABINDA, AND CARRYING ON INTENSIFIED PROPAGANDA AGAINST NETO. IN RETALIATION, AND TO PROVE THAT "PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN GLASS HOUSES SHOULDN'T THROW STONES", NETO HAD SIMPLY ALLOWED THE KATANGAN GENDARMES WHOM HE HAD PREVIOUSLY PREVENTED FROM GOING HOME TO PACK UP AND HEAD BACK INTO ZAIRE.

4. NYERERE ADDED THAT FOR HIS OWN PART HE WAS NOT SURPRISED AT SITUATION AND BELIEVED THAT NETO'S SIMPLE EXPLANATION WAS TRUE. NYERERE SAID HE COULD UNDERSTAND WHY MOBUTU HAD NOT BEEN PREPARED TO SUPPORT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA AS LONG AS PORTUGUESE WERE IN CONTROL IN ANGOLA AND IN A POSITION TO UNLEASH THE KATANGANS AGAINST HIM. BUT NOW THE PORTUGUESE WERE GONE AND MOBUTU REALLY HAD TO LEARN TO LIVE IN PEACE WITH FELLOW AFRICANS -- ESPECIALLY SINCE THEY COULD MAKE IT ROUGH FOR HIM IF HE DIDN'T.

5. NYERERE WENT ON TO SAY THAT AFTER HIS TALK WITH NETO HE HAD HEARD A BBC BROADCAST WHICH REPORTED THAT MOBUTU HAD APPEALED FOR HELP TO THE US AND THAT HIS REQUEST WAS "UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON". NYERERE HAD ALSO HEARD THAT MOBUTU CLAIMED THAT HIS COUNTRY WAS BEING INVADED BY "MERCENARIES FROM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC". THE LATTER WAS NONSENSE. THERE WERE NO CUBANS INVOLVED. THE US COULD AND SHOULD CHECK THIS OUT ITSELF. THE ISSUE IS SIMPLY ONE BETWEEN ANGOLANS AND ZAIRIANS AND OUTSIDE POWERS SHOULD LEAVE IT TO THEM. HE HOPED US WOULD NOT RESPOND FAVORABLY.

6. I SAID I WOULD PROMPTLY CONVEY PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS TO WASHINGTON. I WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH NATURE OF MOBUTU REQUEST TO WASHINGTON. AS NYERERE KNEW, WE HAD ECONOMIC AND SECURITY
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 DAR ES 01082 151337Z

ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS WITH ZAIRE AND I WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF ZAIRIAN ARMY WHEN MEETING INVADERS -- WHOEVER THEY WERE-- MIGHT FIND ITSELF USING SOME AMERICAN WEAPONS. NYERERE WAVED THAT ASIDE,

SAYING "WHAT IS DONE IS DONE", BUT WENT ON TO URGE NO NEW OR SPECIFIC US INVOLVEMENT.

7. ALTHOUGH NYERERE DID NOT SAY SO, TONE AND MANNER OF HIS PRESENTING NETO'S EXPLANATION FOR THE INVASION (PARA 3 ABOVE) IMPLIED THAT EITHER NETO HAD ASKED HIM TO CONVEY MESSAGE FUO US OR THAT NYERERE HAD OFFERED TO DO SO.
SPAIN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DARES01082
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770088-0874
Format: TEL
From: DAR ES SALAAM
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770360/aaaacadl.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b639f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3110517
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT NYERERE ON CURRENT SITUATION IN ZAIRE
TAGS: PFOR, CG, TZ, (NYERERE, JULIUS K)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b639f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009